

Message Text

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ACTION SR-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-11 ISO-00 ORM-03 IO-14 ABF-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15

PRS-01 SPC-03 SAM-01 /093 W

----- 104750

R 081530Z FEB 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3884

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY ROME

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FOR S/R

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, UR, IS

SUBJ: JEWISH REFUGEE MIGRANTS EX-USSR

REF: GENEVA 0748

1. ON FEBRUARY 7, GOTT HAMMER, EXEC VICE CHAIRMAN, UIA, ACCOMPANIED BY ISRAEL BEN NUN, EUROPEAN DIRECTOR, JAI, TED FEDER, DEP EUROPEAN DIRECTOR AJDC, AND LEONARD SEIDENMEN EUROPEAN DIRECTOR UHS, CALLED AT MISSION TO DISCUSS MATTER OF JEWS FROM SOVIET UNION WHO SEEK RE-SETTLEMENT IN COUNTRIES OTHER THAN ISRAEL. HAMMER WHO WAS PRINCIPAL SPOKESMAN FOR GROUP CITED THREE CATEGORIES OF REFUGEE MIGRANTS IN QUESTION, I.E., (1) DROPOUTS IN VIENNA FROM MOSCOW/TEL AVIV FLOW WHO USUALLY TRANSFERRED FROM VIENNA TO ROME FOR RESETTLEMENT PROCESSING TO COUNTRY OTHER THAN ISRAEL; (2) SOVIET JEWS POSSESSING ISRAELI PASSPORTS WHO PROCEED FROM ISRAEL TO ROME FOR RESETTLEMENT PROCESSING TO THIRD COUNTRY; AND (3) SOVIET JEWS POSSESSING LAISSEZ-PASSER WHO PROCEED FROM ISRAEL TO ROME FOR RESETTLEMENT PROCESSING TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THIRD COUNTRY.

2. IT WAS CONSENSUS OF GROUP INCLUDING MISOFF THAT FIRST CATEGORY (DROPOUTS) WERE LEGITIMATE REFUGEES AND DESERVING OF ALL FORMS USRP ASSISTANCE.

3. WITH RESPECT SECOND CATEGORY (SOVIET JEWS POSSESSING ISRAELI PASSPORTS), HAMMER AND OTHER VOLAG REPS VOICED STRONG VIEW THAT THESE INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE OBVIOUSLY ISRAELI NATIONALS HAVING BEEN FIRMLY RESETTLED ISRAEL WERE NOT RPT NOT DESERVING OF USRP ASSISTANCE. MISOFF EXPRESSED GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THIS VIEW AND ASSURED HAMMER AND OTHERS THAT, SUBJECT TO DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE, MISSION (RMRC) WOULD TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES IN FUTURE TO ENSURE THAT USRP ELIGIBILITY WOULD BE DENIED TO ISRAELI PASSPORT HOLDERS. DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE (CONCURRENCE) THIS REGARD REQUESTED ASAP.

4. AS REGARDS THIRD CATEGORY (SOVIET JEWS POSSESSING LAISSEZ-PASSER ISSUED BY ISRAELI AUTHORITIES), HAMMER AND BEN NUN EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT THEY TOO SHOULD BE DENIED USRP ASSISTANCE. THEY ARGUED THAT THESE INDIVIDUALS HAD ALREADY BEEN ASSISTED ONCE BY USG. MISOFF REJOINED THAT CASES IN THIS CATEGORY MUST BE VIEWED IN DIFFERENT LIGHT FROM ISRAELI PASSPORT HOLDERS AND CONSIDERED ON CASE BY CASE BASIS. MISOFF EXPLAINED THAT MANY OF THESE CASES USED ISRAELI VISAS MERELY AS MEANS TO LEAVE SOVIET UNION, DID NOT HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO DROP OUT IN VIENNA, WERE NOT FIRMLY RESETTLED IN ISRAEL, THAT MANY HAVE CLOSE RELATIVES IN USA, CANADA, ETC., AND MANY SEEMINGLY ELIGIBLE TO BE ADMITTED TO USA AS REFUGEES. UHS REP SEIDENMEAN TENDED SUPPORT MISOFF'S POSITION.

5. MISOFF ASSURED HAMMER AND BEN NUN THAT THEIR VIEWS WOULD BE CONVEYED TO DEPARTMENT PROMPTLY, BUT THAT IN MEANTIME MISSION (RMRC) WOULD CONTINUE CONSIDERING MERITS EACH LAISSEZ-PASSER HOLDER CASE AND GRANTING USRP ELIGIBILITY AND ASSISTANCE ACCORDINGLY. DEPARTMENT'S QUIDANCE THIS MATTER REQUESTED ASAP. DALE

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